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12. (Amended) A plough according to claim 11 in which the steerable soil-engaging fins are carried by one or more supporting skids.

REMARKS

Prior to an examination on the merits of the above-identified patent application, please enter the foregoing amendments.

Claims 1-17 are pending in the above-identified patent application. Claims 1, 11, 16 and 17 are single claims presented in independent form.

The present application represents the U.S. National Phase of P.C.T. Application No. PCT/GB00/03615, filed September 21, 2000, and claiming foreign priority on the basis of Applicant's corresponding United Kingdom patent application, filed September 21, 1999.

By the present amendment, dependent Claims 3, 8, 9 and 12 have been amended in order to remove the multiple dependencies therefrom.

A substitute Abstract of the Disclosure, on a separate sheet of paper, as required by 37 C.F.R. §1.72(b), is also enclosed.

A "marked-up" version of the claim amendments being

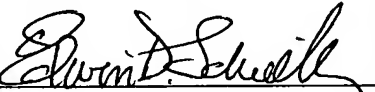
entered is attached to this Preliminary Amendment.

The application is now in condition for a full examination on the merits.

Accordingly, an early examination on the merits and allowance are, therefore, respectfully requested and earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION OF AMENDMENTS WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE
(Dated March 21, 2002)

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims of the above-identified P.C.T. patent application (which were not amended during the Chapter II P.C.T. international phase), as follows:

3. (Amended) A plough according to claim 1 [or claim 2] in which the tow rope attachment mechanism comprises a bridle having two bridle limbs terminating at one end at the tow rope retention point and at the other at respective bridle limb retention points.

8. (Amended) A plough according to [any one of claims 3-7] claim 3 in which the tow rope attachment mechanism is adapted to enable movement of the bridle limb retention points relative to the plough from respective towing positions to respective lifting positions at which the bridle can be used to lift the plough in a substantially level attitude.

9. (Amended) A plough according to [any one of claims 3-8] claim 3 in which the tow rope attachment mechanism is adapted to enable the said adjustment of the position of the tow rope retention point relative to the plough by adjustment of the relative length of the bridle limits.

12. (Amended) A plough according to [any preceding] claim 11 in which the steerable soil-engaging fins are carried by one or more supporting skids.